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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-10 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01
CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DLOS-06 DODE-00 DOTE-00
EB-08 EPA-04 ERDA-07 FMC-02 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07
INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-02
OES-06 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
SAL-01 FEA-01 /144 W
----------110313Z 127619 /72-61
R 101730Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 511
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

UNCLAS LONDON 2386

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, EC, PLOS, UK
SUBJECT: UK ANNOUNCES RESTRICTIONS ON EASTERN EUROPEAN
FISHING IN EC WATERS

REF: (A) LONDON 2218; (B) EC BRUSSELS 1273

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1. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, JOHN SILKIN, ANNOUNCED FEBRUARY 9 THAT HE HAS SIGNED AND LAID BEFORE PARLIAMENT AN ORDER UNDER THE FISHERIES LIMIT ACT 1976 WHICH WILL REQUIRE SOVIET, EAST GERMAN AND POLISH TRAWLERS TO OBTAIN LICENSES TO FISH WITHIN BRITAIN'S 200 MILE LIMIT. HE CONFIRMED THAT ONLY 27 RUSSIAN TRAWLERS WILL BE LICENSED WITH ONLY 17 ALLOWED IN EEC WATERS AT ANY

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ONE TIME. SIMILARLY 6 EAST GERMAN AND 5 POLISH TRAWLERS WILL BE LICENSED WITH ONLY 5 OF EACH COUNTRY PERMITTED TO OPERATE IN BRITISH WATERS AT ANY ONE TIME. THE LICENSES LAST INITIALLY UNTIL THE END OF MARCH, BUT COULD WELL BE EXTENDED.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE AT PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE FISHERIES PROTECTION FRIGATE HMS CLEOPATRA AT THE END OF A DAY SPENT INSPECTING NORTH SEA FISHING AREAS. SILKIN'S DAY INCLUDED A 200 MILE HELICOPTER TRIP DURING WHICH HE SAW ABOUT 40 SOVIET TRAWLERS FISHING IN AN AREA THAT HAD BEEN DESIGNATED FOR 6 VESSELS ON AN EEC QUOTA SYSTEM. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION AT PRESS CONFERENCE SILKIN EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT RUSSIANS WOULD COMPLY WITH NEW LAW BUT ADDED THAT "THESE ARE BRITISH SOVEREIGN WATERS AND ANYBODY WHO BREAKS THE LAW WILL BE DEALT WITH."

3. SILKIN ALSO SAID THAT BY THE END OF FEBRUARY HE HOPED TO BRING INTO OPERATION FOUR CONSERVATION MEASURES DESIGNED: TO STOP THE CATCH OF POUT WHITING FOR 8 MONTHS OF THE YEAR; TO PERMIT BRITISH FISHING PROTECTION VESSELS TO EXAMINE THE GEAR OF FOREIGN TRAWLERS AS WELL AS BRITISH, TO ENSURE THEY WERE CARRYING ONLY PROPER TYPES AND SIZE OF NETS; TO BAN HERRING FISHING IN THE NORTH SEA; AND TO PLACE RESTRICTIONS ON BYCATCHES OF SPECIES SUCH AS COD AND HADDOCK BY VESSELS TRAWLING FOR FISH TO BE USED IN FISHMEAL.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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